Mary for Mary Johnson

Griswold April 15th 1839

My Dear Mrs Smith

We yesterday recieved a letter from my brother I in which he requested us to get out a box of shells and other curiosities also the portable desk of your and my dear sister now in Heaven It will be an affecting and precious memento of her you so dearly loved With it placed beside her bed she penned her dying messages I regret that we cannot send you the key to it but we know nothing about it having never opened it We tried the keys which we have but could find none that would open it Brother said nothing about it It may be he has it with him Respecting the curiosities I had much rather he would have made the selection himself But we have tried to do right about them There are some things yet which we with Sisters friends to have which we could not send in this box You will find a correct pattern of a chinese foot both in size and form (as brother has said) Also a Chinese tea pot and tea cups of the usual size I hope the things will go safely We have packed them with much care He wished us to let the clothing remain as it is until further advices We should be very glad if you could have some of sisters clothing now it would be some satisfaction to you to see what she used to wear We have had much in this way to remind us of her It has been some satisfaction but much sadness has been mixed with it But when I see them I think of her as no longer needing such earthly apparel but as clothed in the robes of Christs righteousness spotless and pure When brother wrote he was at Buffalo in the employment of the Buf Bethel Society preaching to the seamen, and expected to remain there for 8 months to come unless called away by the board He wished us to forward these things as soon as possible as Mr Smith was expecting to be in N Y early in this month. His was dated the 1st but as it has been so long reaching us I fear they will be too late for Mr Smith Mrs Smith I feel that you have a precious treasure in little A I doubt not you consider him so He is also a great charge But I hope he may abundantly compensate you for all your trouble Do kiss him many times for us all It was a trial for us to part with him so soon but we feel that your care will be taken of him You see I have in his letter called you his Mama expecting he is an adopted child I fear I have erred please correct it you will mrs Smith confer a great favour by writing to us and telling us all about little A also inform us of your own dear friends Please to write soon Yours affectionately friend Mary H Johnson

Mary Johnson
April 15 1835

Mrs Mary Smith